

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 OIC-04 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 CPR-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3734

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN PFOR CB PO SF

SUBJ: UNGA SPECIAL SESSION: CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE MEETING HAS BEEN CALLED FOR 25 APRIL; THIS IS SUBJECT CHANGE DUE TO INTERPRETERS STRIKE. WE CALLED ON UN LEGAL COUNSEL SUY TODAY TO REVIEW CC SCENARIO AND LEARNED THAT (A) SECRETARIAT HAS APPROACHED URUGUAYAN PERMREP GIAMBRUNO AND ELICITED HIS WILLINGNESS TO SERVE AS CC CHAIRMAN, AS HE DID AT 28TH GA; (B) AT BEGINNING OF MEETING SYG WILL STATE THAT CREDENTIALS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM MORE THAN 125 DELEGATIONS AND THAT THESE APPEAR TO BE IN ORDER UNDER RULE 27 (US CREDENTIALS RECEIVED YESTERDAY) AND (C) SECRETARIAT DOES NOT ANTICIPATE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES FROM SUCH CC MEMBERS AS SENEGAL AND TANZANIA. WE SAID US WOULD EXPECT TO SPEAK FOR THE RECORD IN THE CC IF RESERVATIONS OR VOTES ARE PROPOSED VIS-A-VIS KHMER, PORTUGUESE OR SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS; SUY SUGGESTED OPTIMUM LINE WOULD
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BE THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION HAS NOT CONCERNED ITSELF

WITH POLITICAL ISSUES AND SHOULD NOT NOW DO SO IN VIEW OF NEED TO FOCUS ON EFFORT TO PRODUCE USEFUL SPECIAL SESSION RESULTS.

2. SUY THINKS CC REPORT IS MOST LIKELY TO BE TAKEN UP IN PLENARY ON 29 APRIL; 26 APRIL IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY OF REPORT CAN BE TRANSLATED AND CIRCULATED PROMPTLY. SUY TOLD US HE IS THINKING OF RECOMMENDING TO GA PRESIDENT BENITES THAT BENITES SHOULD, ON THAT OCCASION, SUGGEST THAT THE ASSEMBLY TAKE NOTE OF THE REPORT AND PASS ON TO ITS OTHER URGENT BUSINESS. HE APPEARED TO EXHIBIT A CERTAIN CONFIDENCE THAT BENITES WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO BARRING UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENTS.

3. WE NOTE THAT UNLIKE LAST GA, PORTUGUESE CREDENTIALS CONTAIN NO "PROVOCATIVE" REFERENCES TO OVERSEAS POSITIONS OF MEMBERS OF PORTUGUESE DELEGATION. MOREOVER, KHMER PERMREP VUTTHI IS SERVING AS HEAD OF KHMER DEL TO SPECIAL SESSION AND THUS, UNDER A/9542 AND SYG'S FOLLOW-ON NOTE OF 5 MARCH, REQUIRES NO NEW CREDENTIALS. THESE FACTS MAY HAVE marginally helpful effect in further reducing any tendency to make these questions a subject of major dispute at the current session.

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